

Amendments to the Specification:

After the title, please insert the following subheading and paragraph:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is entitled to the benefit of and incorporates by reference essential subject matter disclosed in International Patent Application No. PCT/IB2004/002522 filed on August 5, 2004 and European Patent Application No. 04405059.9 filed January 30, 2004.

Before paragraph [0001], please insert the following subheading:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please amend paragraph [0001] as follows:

The present invention concerns pressure control device for maintaining a constant predetermined excess pressure in a fluid dispensing container ~~according to the preamble part of claim 1. The present invention further concerns and a method for manufacturing such a pressure control device according to the preamble of claim 18.~~

Before paragraph [0002] please insert the following subheading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please amend paragraphs [0002] – [0003] as follows:

PCT patent application WO-A-99/62791 discloses a fluid dispensing container with a pressure control device. ~~Such a container with a pressure control device is known, e.g. from PCT patent application WO-A-99/62791.~~ The device described therein is provided for maintaining a constant predetermined pressure in a container which is arranged for dispensing a fluid. The pressure control device has a first chamber and a second chamber, as well as a closing member movable relative to the second chamber for releasing and closing a fluid connection between the first chamber and the container depending on the position of the closing member relative to the second chamber. The first chamber is filled with a gas which, in use, has a higher pressure

than the pressure in the container. The second chamber is closed having a gas at a predetermined or reference pressure and is located outside the first chamber. In a first embodiment according to Fig. 2 of WO-A-99/62791, the first chamber is provided as a cup-shaped holder which is placed upside down in the container and has its longitudinal edge joined together with the bottom and the upright sidewall of the vessel or container. In Figure 3 a second embodiment is shown in which the diameter of cup-like first chamber is much smaller than the inner diameter of the container. The chamber is centrally disposed within the container and joined at its longitudinal edge with the bottom of the container. In Figure 4 a third embodiment is shown in which the same first chamber as in Figure 3 [[4]] is disposed eccentrically with respect to the container. In Figure 5 a disc is provided slightly below the middle of the height of the vessel and is gas-tightly connected with the inner wall of the vessel through a sealing ring. This disc divides the vessel into two (fixed arranged) parts. A similar construction is shown in Figures 6a and 6b. Further, in Figure 7 the first chamber of pressure control device is designed as a plunger which is sealed to the inner wall of the container with a sealing ring and which can be moved in axial direction within the container. Thus, the plunger divides the container in two parts, wherein the upper part is filled with the fluid to be dispensed. The fluid connection from the first chamber terminates in the lower part. When the pressure in the container drops since fluid has been dispensed by the push button on top of the container, the plunger is moved upwards because of the pressure difference between the lower and the upper part until pressure equilibrium between the lower and the upper part is obtained again. Therefore, the pressure in the lower part has decreased so that the pressure in the second chamber will be higher and the closing member will open the fluid connection between the first chamber and the lower part, so that the pressure in the lower part will rise [[raise]]. The plunger will then be moved upwards again until a pressure equilibrium is achieved corresponding to the predetermined or reference pressure in the second chamber. Finally, in the embodiment according to Figure 8 the first chamber is of cylindrical design and has an outer diameter corresponding to the inner diameter of the container and thus fitted tightly within the container.

Only the pressure device of Figure figure 7 of WO-A-99/62791 is movable in an axial direction. In all other examples the pressure device is fixedly arranged within the

container. The complete pressure control device of Figure figure 7 is designed as a plunger which functions as a movable piston expelling the dispensing fluid. However, the design of the pressure control device is disadvantageous because of its large dimensions so that less of the container can be used for dispensing fluid.

Please amend paragraph [0005] as follows:

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a container with a pressure control device which is simpler in construction and for the manufacturing process, such that the volume of the container can be used to a greater extent. It is another object of the invention to provide a pressure control device for a container which can easily be pressurized after being assembled to the container. ~~This and other objects of the present invention are accomplished by a pressure control system as claimed in claim 1 and by a manufacturing method as claimed in claim 18.~~

Before paragraph [0006], please insert the following subheading and paragraphs:

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0005-1] According to the present invention, the above and other objects are accomplished by a pressure control device for use in a pressure control system having a fluid dispensing container for maintaining a constant predetermined excess pressure. The pressure control comprises a cylinder having an open end and a closed end, and a piston movable within the cylinder and defining a first chamber to be filled with a gas for exerting the predetermined excess pressure, a second chamber, a passageway from the second chamber to the outside of the device leading to the fluid dispensing container, and a valve for releasing and closing the passageway. The second chamber is formed by a high-pressure container with a closed end and an open end provided with a rim part. The high-pressure container is filled with a gas at a pressure higher than the predetermined excess pressure. The piston includes means for actuating the valve dependent from the pressure difference between the first chamber and the fluid dispensing container so that if the fluid pressure in the fluid dispensing container drops below the predetermined excess pressure, gas flows from the second chamber to the fluid dispensing

container until the container pressure approximately equals the predetermined excess pressure. A closure is mounted to the rim part of the high-pressure container in order to close the second chamber, wherein the first chamber is part of the closure such that the high-pressure container encompasses the cylinder of the first chamber.

[0005-2] The above and other objects are also accomplished by a method of manufacturing a pressure control device in accordance with the present invention comprising forming a first cylinder, and forming the piston, the valve elements, the high-pressure container with the closed end and the rim part at the open end, and the closure out of a synthetic material of high stability. A central opening is formed in the bottom of the high-pressure container and the piston is assembled with a sealing ring in the first cylinder. A gas is filled in the first chamber at a predetermined pressure. The first cylinder is mounted with respect to the valve such that the actuating means of the piston is positioned correctly with respect to the valve. The closure is mounted to the high-pressure container.

Please amend paragraph [0007] as follows:

Further advantages of the invention are disclosed in the dependent claims and in the following description in which an exemplified embodiment of the invention is described with respect to the accompanying drawings. ~~It shows~~

Before paragraph [0008], please insert the following subheading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please amend paragraphs [0008] – [0014] as follows:

Fig. 1 illustrates a pressure control device of the present invention in perspective view and in cross-section, wherein the valve is closed[[,]].

Fig. 2 illustrates the same pressure control device of Fig. 1, wherein the valve is open[[,]].

Fig. 3 illustrates the same pressure control device of as in Fig. 1 only in cross-section[[,]].

Fig. 4 illustrates an exploded view of the pressure control device of Fig. 1[[,]].

Fig. 5 illustrates a fluid dispensing container with a the pressure control device and a movable piston in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention, wherein the valve is closed[[,]].

Fig. 6 illustrates the same fluid dispensing container of as in Fig. 5, wherein the valve is open[[, and]].

Fig. 7 illustrates a fluid dispensing container with a the pressure control device and a spray valve with dip-tube arrangement in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

Before paragraph [0015], please insert the following subheading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Please amend paragraph [0036] as follows:

[0036] Although laser welding has been proven as giving the best results for joining the pressure control device to the bottle 50 other suitable joining methods, like ~~ultasonic~~ ultrasonic welding or gluing with an appropriate plastic adhesive can also be used.

Please insert the following new paragraph [0039]:

While the present invention has been illustrated and described with respect to a particular embodiment thereof, it should be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art that various modifications to this invention may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention.